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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/581,946 11/08/00 GARCIA MARTIN

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001444 PM82/1101
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EXAMINER

COHEN, C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3634

DATE MAILED:

11/01/01

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/581,946

Applicant(s)
Garcia-Martin et al

Examiner
Curtis Cohen

Art Unit
3634



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 21, 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-23 and 30-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 24-29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 8 20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 19, 20, 30, 36, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 19, lines 3-4, the duplicate recitation of “a door lock subassembly” and “a window regulator subassembly” is indefinite because both elements were previously set forth in claim 18. Moreover, how can a window regulator subassembly comprise a window regulator subassembly. Further, if one chooses to select “a door lock subassembly” as the “at least one of”, then how can a door lock subassembly comprise a window regulator subassembly. It is indefinite why applicant has provided the alternative selection of a door lock subassembly comprising a window regulator subassembly when the specification fails to set forth this provision. Similarly, *claims 20, 30, 36 and 37* have the same issues that must be addressed accordingly. Applicant needs to review all of these claims and reconsider the language set forth.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371^o of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 18-23 and 30-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Emerling et al #5,904,002. Emerling et al teaches an inner door panel having a power window regulator subassembly and a door lock subassembly carried by said door trim panel. The subassembly is mounted to be movable relative to said door trim panel. A metal reinforcing plate is taught by member 16.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 24-29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claims 24 and 27, there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of record of "two support appendages that are directed toward each other."

Regarding claim 28, there is not teaching or suggestion in the prior art of record of a pair of fins as set forth in line 6 and 9.

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Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 18-38 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Although a new grounds of rejection has been applied, it should be noted that applicant has set forth claim limitations regarding the process in which the door is assembled, (e.g., claim 21, lines 3-4, claim 22, lines 3-5, claim 34, lines 4-5). Little patentable weight is imparted to the language describing the process in which the product is assembled. This is considered a product-by-process limitation as defined by the M.P.E.P. Chapter 2100.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Curtis Cohen whose telephone number is (703) 308-2106.

The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-7687.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.



C. Cohen

October 25, 2001